

**COPY**

#13

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re U.S. Patent Application**

**Aymen RAMADAN et al.**

**Examiner: unassigned**

**Group Art Unit: 3738**

**Serial Number: 09/521,896**

**Filed: 09 March 2000**

**For: DISK PROSTHESIS FOR CERVICAL VERTEBRAE**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

RECEIVED  
MAR 20 2002  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

Pursuant to Rule 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.51(b), 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in the above-identified patent application. A listing of documents to be published on the face of any patent granted from this application is submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449. Any other documents or information submitted for consideration by the Examiner are listed in this paper. A copy of each U.S. and foreign patent, or each publication or portion thereof listed or herein identified is submitted herewith.

**ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS OR INFORMATION NOT LISTED ON  
ACCOMPANYING FORM PTO-1449 SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION**

France INPI Search Report from related french application.

**CONCISE STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY  
(NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE DOCUMENTS ONLY)**

All of the documents submitted herewith have been cited in the appended French Search Report and the relevance of same is evident from the search report (all in "A" or background category). All of the documents relate to spinal implant or repair devices.

**STATEMENT REGARDING TRANSLATIONS**

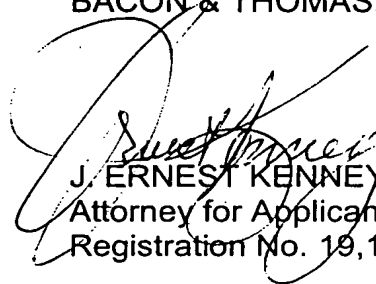
English translations of the non-English documents are not available to Applicants attorney.

**STATEMENT OF TIMELINESS**

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted prior to the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits received by Applicant in the above-identified application.

The Examiner is requested to acknowledge consideration of the information provided in this paper in accordance with prescribed procedures.

Respectfully submitted,  
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

  
J. ERNEST KENNEY  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 19,179

625 Slaters Lane, 4th Floor  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Telephone: (703) 683-0500  
Facsimile: (703) 683-1080

Date: January 7, 2001

S:\Producer\jek\RAMADAN - 521896\ids.wpd